Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 294356

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OAS

SUBJECT: REMARKS OF DEPUTY U.S. PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE CONCERNING EXPULSION ORDER AGAINST CHILEAN LAWYERS DURING PERM COUNCIL MEETING, DECEMBER 1

BEGIN TEXT MR. CHAIRMAN, I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS THE SUPPORT OF MY DELEGATION FOR THE POINT MADE BY THE DISTINGUISHED REPRESENTATIVE OF VENEZUELA.

IT WAS OUR UNDERSTANDING, BASED ON STATEMENTS MADE IN THIS ROOM BY AMBASSADOR TRUCCO AND HIS GOVERNMENT'S DISCUSSIONS WITH OFFICIALS OF THIS ORGANIZATION, THAT NO REPRISALS WOULD BE TAKEN AGAINST ANYONE AS A RESULT OF THEIR COOPERATION WITH THE VI GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE OAS IN SANTIAGO.

OUR UNDERSTANDING WAS THAT RESPECT WAS TO BE SHOWN FOR THE OAS DURING ITS SANTIAGO PROCEEDINGS BY RELAXATION OF THE STRICTURES ON RIGHTS OF SPEECH, PRESS AND ASSEMBLY; THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY RECOGNIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF CHILE'S CONTINUING COOPERATION WITH THE INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 STATE 294356

COMMISSION WHEN IT VOTED OVERWHELMINGLY FOR RESOLUTION 243.

WE WERE SHOCKED, THEREFORE, TO HEAR OF THE ACTION TAKEN AGAINST TWO CHILEAN LAWYERS WHO HAD COOPERATED WITH MEMBERS

OF THE INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION DURING THE COURSE OF THE VI OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY. IT IS OUR OPINION THAT THEIR EXPULSION IS CONTRARY TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 243 REQUESTING THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE "TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATE GUARANTEES TO PERSONS OR INSTITUTIONS THAT PROVIDE INFORMATION, TESTIMONY OR OTHER TYPES OF EVIDENCE."

I RESPECTFULLY REQUEST, THEREFORE, THAT IN LIGHT OF THE RECENT LAUDABLE ACTIONS BY THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE, IT RECONSIDER ITS OBLIGATIONS TO THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES AND WITHDRAW THE EXPULSION ORDER AGAINST JAIME CASTILLO AND EUGENIO VELASCO. END TEXT. KISSINGER

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